

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 XMB-02 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /099 W

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O R 161750Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5181

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PINT, PFOR, EEC, IT

SUBJECT: COUNTERVAILING DUTY INVESTIGATIONS: FLOAT GLASS

REF: ROME 0604, BRUSSELS USEC 0415

1. EMBOFF WAS SUMMONED TO MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) JANUARY 16 TO RECEIVE "FORMAL" ORAL REPRESENTATIONS BY MFA REP FUXA (DIRECTOR, EC-GATT AFFAIRS) ON US TREASURY'S FINAL (POSITIVE) DETERMINATION IN FLOAT GLASS COUNTERVAILING DUTY CASE. FUXA SAID GOI TAKES "VER SERIOUS VIEW" OF CASE AND THAT

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ITALIAN AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CALL AT STATE DE-

PARTMENT TO MAKE FORMAL PRESENTATION OF GOI VIEWS.

2. FUXA MADE PRESENTATION ALONG LINES EC NOTE VERBALE DELIVERED TO USG, STRESSING: (A) GOI'S "GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT" WITH TREASURY'S POSITIVE DETERMINATION; AND (B) THAT USG ATTACK ON ITALIAN REGIONAL AIDS SYSTEM "CANNOT BE ACCEPTED" BY GOI, SINCE ITS REGIONAL POLICY IS AN INTERNAL MATTER WHICH, FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS, CANNOT BE DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS OR IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. HE MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO BOTH CURRENT POLITICAL CRISIS AND CONCERN OF ITALIAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.

3. FUXA MADE IT CLEAR THAT, FROM GOI VIEWPOINT, MAJOR PROBLEM IS THAT TREASURY'S POSITIVE DETERMINATION REPRESENTS DIRECT ATTACK ON GOI'S MEZZOGIORNO PROGRAM. HE SAID POLITICIANS, REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS, UNIONS AND INDUSTRIALISTS ARE ASKING WHY GOI IS UNWILLING TO RESPOND TO USG ATTACK. FUXA WARNED THAT, IN PRESENT POLITICAL CRISIS, IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE TO IGNORE THESE WIDESPREAD PRESSURES AND THAT GOI MIGHT HAVE TO MAKE SOME PUBLIC RESPONSE, WHICH WOULD CERTAINLY NOT IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION. HE INDICATED GOI HAS BEEN FORTUNATE THAT ITALIAN MEDIA HAS BEEN PREOCCUPIED WITH OTHER MATTERS, BUT THAT SOONER OR LATER ISSUE WILL RECEIVE ATTENTION BY POLITICAL PRESS. VOLPE

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